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Thursday, December 12, 2002



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Money Backs Plans to Develop **Detroit Riverfront**

Reported by Val Clark Web produced by Christiana Ciolac



Mayor Kilpatrick announced plans of developing the Detroit riverfront. <u>Video</u>

The city has unveiled plans to transform Detroit's riverfront from abandoned warehouses and dump sites to gleaming parks and walkways.

Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick announced a new plan to develop the

riverfront. What makes the plan different this time is that the dream is backed by \$500 million.

"Today is another great day in the history of our city, a day where we come together as a community, private sector, public sector, nonprofit organizations," said Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick.

With that, Mayor Kilpatrick detailed the "transformation" of Detroit's riverfront is about to go through. Key aspects include a river walkway that will stretch three miles from the existing path at Joe Louis Arena to Belle Isle, a port authority for shipping built between the RenCen and Hart Plaza and a state park and harbor.

Funding will come from city, county, federal and the state government, which was on hand with a written commitment, "Authorizes Michigan's first urban state park and in so doing, I would like to notify all of you and the residents of this city that you can expect a sidewalk superintendents the construction that is underway today. In addition, we promise you the harbor portion will be completed by the summer."

The three key aspects are just the beginning.

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There is also going to be housing, entertainment, retail and at the end of it, there is going to be an effort to take more advantage of the international waterway and have a closer commitment with Canada.



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